	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
22.	Tamil Nadu	34	3667.8	3490.5	3607.7	14.7	13.9	21.5
23.	Tripura	4	194.6	204.6	205.9	1.0	0.2	0.5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	89	2356.6	2514.5	2491.6	8.6	9.9	10.5
25.	West Bengal	74	5093.0	5383.2	5468.6	7.2	8.6	9.6
	Union Territories							
1.	A&N Islands	1	19.8	20.2	21.6	0.6	0.6	0.2
2.	Chandigarh	2	157.2	153.2	139.7	1.1	0.6	0.7
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	4.0	4.5	5.0	0.1		
4.	Delhi	20	970.1	1033.8	1081.2	13.5	16.9	10.9
5.	Daman & Diu	2	5.2	4.6	5.0	0.1		
6.	Lakshadweep	1	8.5	9.4	9.7	0.2	0.1	0.1
7.	Pondicherry	1	142.6	151.4	133.0	0.3	0.4	0.1
	Total	914	36691.5	36742.3	37429.6	204.9	214.9	233

Note: 1. $ No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

Methodology for Estimation of Poverty

3119. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appearing in the 'Times of India' on 5th March, 1997 under the heading "Naidu sore over Centre stand on poverty ration";

(b) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written a letter to the Prime Minister expressing his reservations over the decision of the Centre to switch over to the Lakdawala Committee methodology for estimation of poverty to determine Central Financial aid to States;

(c) whether Government propose to have a rethinking on the whole issue as the States share under the new public distribution system would be more distortionary and erroneous; and

(d) the Government's reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) It is a fact that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written a letter to the Prime Minister stating that the Chief Minister is not "inclined to accept the use of poverty ratio based on Lakdawala Committee methodology" as a variable in determining the allocation of central resources flow, including the quantum of allocation for centrally sponsored schemes. The Chief Minister has expressed his reservations on Lakdawala Committee methodology to estimate the poverty for Andhra Pradesh and has suggested that the poverty ratio for Andhra Pradesh should be re-estimated under Lakdawala method by eliminating the price depressing effect of the State Government sponsored food subsidy programme. The implication of the suggestion on estimates of poverty for Andhra Pradesh is being studied.

(c) and (d) No rethinking about the use of Lakdawala methodology to estimate poverty is contemplated by the Planning Commission.

Merger of Poverty Alleviation programme and employment oriented schemes

3120. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to merge poverty alleviation programmes and the employment